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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Air Activities in the Caucasus

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1. Small scale maneuvers took place at Bielvikhouch, (south of Tbilisi--Tiflis) during the second week of September 1953. During these maneuvers, Soviet transport planes parachuted light transport and small tanks. Different kinds of planes took part, including pursuit planes and sixteen-ton gliders. The latter had side and tail openings.
2. The airfields at Ordubad and Arpa are almost finished.
3. Since June 1953, the Soviets have been constructing subterranean munitions depots in various parts of the Caucasus, including: Vank, in the region of Susa; Dig, in the region of Nihenean, Kazanchi, Cagri, and Ahtarak, in the region of Estmantchin. These are devoted mainly or entirely to aviation munitions. The dumps contain various kinds of heavy bombs and also some shells.

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